

What are the hazardous biological materials present in the laboratory?

The following disinfectants and contact times are appropriate for the biohazards presented by the biological materials found in the lab. (e.g. 10% household bleach and 6% hydrogen peroxide are an acceptable disinfectant if the solution less than 48 hours old. You may substitute another product if it is compliant with OSHA bloodborne pathogens standard, and is certified to have germicidal activity on *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and HBV. All commercial disinfectant must be mixed and used per manufacturers recommendations)

Biohazard spill response procedure and spill kit checklist

This document is designed to inform laboratory workers of the supplies that should be available and the proper procedure for attending to spills involving biohazards.

Biohazard spill kit checklist:

1. Plastic bucket¹
2. Dust pan¹
3. Broom¹
4. Mop/rags¹
5. Disinfectant
6. Spray bottle
7. Paper Towels
8. Gloves²
9. Lab coat³
10. Safety Glasses⁴
11. Surgical Mask⁵
12. Bag⁶
13. Tongs (optional)

Spill Response Procedure:

- 1- Leave the immediate area to minimize the risk of exposure due to an aerosol.

- 2- Inform the other laboratory occupants, and ask them to evacuate the area, room or building depending on the severity of the spill.
- 3- If the spill is serious enough to require the evacuation of the entire laboratory or building please contact EHS at (713) 348-4444 or RUPD at (713) 348-6000.
- 4- Place a sign either in the immediate area and/or the entrance to the lab informing people that there is a biohazardous spill.
- 5- Don Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- 6- Place paper towels around and on top of the spill in order to minimize the ability of the spill to spread and produce an aerosol as you are treating it.
- 7- Spray freshly made biocide solution or bleach (1:9, household bleach: cool tap water) on the spill area. Cover the entire area copiously.
- 8- Allow 20-30 minutes for the disinfectant to sterilize the biological materials.
 - a. It may be necessary to use a detergent and water to clean up some biological materials. Make sure to do this after you have disinfected the area.
- 9- Use tongs or your dust pan and broom to remove all the liquids, paper towels and other waste materials*.
- 10- Dispose of all the materials in the biohazard waste bag**.
- 11- Use paper towels and disinfectant to clean up any residual materials.
- 12- Dispose of any contaminated PPE or cleaning materials in the biohazard bag.

Footnotes

- 1- Disposable buckets, dust pans, brooms and mop heads which can be thrown away after use are preferable. If you intend to reuse the dust pan, broom and/or mop soak the materials in a biocide solution for 30 minutes.
- 2- Double Glove when possible.
- 3- Use of a disposable lab coat is preferable; if you choose to use a reusable lab coat make sure to have it laundered after exposure.
- 4- Safety glasses should always be used, if there is a high possibility of creating an aerosol or you are working with highly pathogenic materials, chemical splash goggles and/or a face shield may be appropriate.
- 5- N95 respirator or HEPA face mask may be necessary if you are working with materials which pose a risk if aerosolized.
- 6- Double bag waste and if possible use a biohazard bag, autoclave bags preferable.

*If glass or other sharp materials are present make sure to keep the biohazard bag in the plastic bucket.

**If no glass or sharps are present you can place all the spill waste in a biohazard burn box and request a pickup on line.